

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES

OFFICE ENGINEER

P.O. BOX 168041, MS-43

SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-8041

PHONE (916) 227-6299

FAX (916) 227-6282

TTY 711

www.dot.ca.gov

*Serious drought.
Help save water!*

June 30, 2015

Facsimile: (530) 757-1355

Ahmet Gulcu
Empire Landscaping, Inc.
118 Hicklory Lane
Davis, CA 95616

01-262064
01-MEN-101-45.0/50.8
B.O. 04/28/2015

Dear Mr. Gulcu:

The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) received a letter dated June 22, 2015, from Empire Landscaping, Inc. (Empire) in response to the Department's decision to reject Empire's bid due to mathematically and materially unbalancing its bid. Empire requests that Caltrans reconsider its bid based on the following;

- A. Empire, with respect to bid item 2 (Time-Related Overhead), states that the mobilization was \$400,000 and less that 10% of the total bid. The mobilization amount was reasonable and should be accepted by Caltrans, since Empire is a sole owned and operating company with minimum overhead costs, and the actual duration of the project is 500 working days.
- B. With respect to bid item 3, again Empire is sole owned and owner, is the Project Manager. Regarding costs related to storm water pollution control management practices, the Project Manager is a Certified Erosion Sediment and Storm Water inspector and, in addition is a State Qualified Storm Water Pollution Prevention Practitioner. All work associated with this item is done in house. Bid items 4 through 11 (swppp, rain action plan, storm water sampling and analysis, storm water annual report, and temporary erosion control, temporary tacked straw, temporary fiber roll and temporary construction entrance). These items total \$271,600.
- C. Concerning bid item 29, Develop Water Supply, empire spoke with neighboring ranchers and a well contractor. The costs of obtaining water from a rancher or placing a well in the project site was \$40,000 to \$45,000. However, installing an irrigation system for plant survival is different than developing a water supply. Because there is no bid item line for installing an irrigation system, the costs was put on bid items 17-20 (plants).

Mr. A. Gulcu
June 30, 2015
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The District Engineers reviewed the response from Empire, along with the bid documents submitted by Empire and have not changed their position concerning the unbalanced bid finding. For the reasons stated in the previous correspondence, the Department has reasonable doubt that an award to Empire will result in the lowest cost to the State.

Therefore, the Department reaffirms the rejection of this bid and Empire is no longer eligible for award of this contract.

If you have any questions, please contact Mulissa Smith, Contract Awards Branch Chief, at (916) 227-6228.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John C. McMILLAN', with a large, stylized initial 'J' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

JOHN C. McMILLAN
Deputy Division Chief
Office Engineer
Division of Engineering Services

**** Transmit Conf. Report ****

P.1
CALTRANS CONTR AWARDS Fax 916-227-6282

Jun 30 2015 04:40pm

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—CALIFORNIA STATE TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

EDMUND G. BROWN Jr., Governor

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